

Dear Residents:

The spring season means it is time to reconnect and bring you up to date on the news and events in the City of Parma. There are positive signs that our community is

growing at a time when the economy is slowly making a long-awaited rebound. I am pleased to report we are headed in the right direction in building a brighter future for all our residents. Before citing reasons for my optimism, I would like to make a personal observation concerning the future for my family and me.

As I announced in January, I have decided not to seek a third term as mayor. It was a decision that I made following a great deal of personal reflection as well as discussions with my family and my close friends. I call my decision "bittersweet" because I am leaving a job that I have come to love in working for residents in the city I am proud to call home.

I am also at the stage of my life to consider other options that are available to me while I am still relatively young. I have no definite plans at the present time. Yet, I feel in my heart it is the right decision to make especially because good things are happening in Ohio's seventh largest city. We are in good shape now and getting strong for the future. I am increasingly proud of our city and the great people that live here. I am very optimistic for our future.

I truly hope you can appreciate and share in my optimism for our great city's future.

If you drive along Brookpark Road, you can see construction of the \$7 million dollar V-A Outpatient Health Clinic that will employ some 200 people when completed. We just broke ground for the hands-on, state-of-the-art Watershed Education Center at the West Creek Preserve. The 300 acre park will be a jewel for all Greater Clevelanders to visit as part of the Cleveland Metroparks Emerald Necklace.

We are also working with the Cuyahoga County Public Library on a proposed \$15 million high-tech Parma Branch building adjacent to Parma City Hall. It will be the flagship branch in the county's library system, spanning 45 thousand square feet, becoming the focal

> point of the "center of town" surrounded by City Hall, Parmatown Mall, Parma Community General Hospital and the Parma Justice Center.

> In addition, the General Motors plant in Parma remains economically strong, steadily adding jobs at a time when many other large corporations are stagnant or cutting positions to save money. Like I say, we are in good shape and big things are happening.

We are also working on some major road programs for this spring and summer including Sprague Road and Stumph Road resurfacing. The summer neighborhood repair programs will soon be in full swing.

On the safety front, we were excited to work for and receive a SAFER grant from the federal government that provides funding for hiring nine new firefighters for the next two years. We announced the return of the Canine Unit to help us fight crime in our city and in the area. And we met our goal of staffing 100 police officers for the first time since 2002. This is just a sampling of the positive things happening in our city.

In closing, I want to say that I look forward to finishing my final year as your mayor in pro-active fashion. I promise to continue to work hard and will serve the city with the same enthusiasm and vigor that I always have. I am incredibly optimistic about the future of Parma. I look forward to your help in sharing our vision together as we continue to make our great city bigger and better in the days to come.

Sincerely,

Dean DePiero Mayor of Parma

## ➢ IN MEMORIAM ≪

## Anthony Zielinski

Parma City Hall lost an individual many of us considered our best friend, Treasurer Anthony

Zielinski. Anthony died on March 25 after courageously battling cancer for nearly a year. His personal and professional accomplishments will long be remembered as will his sense of humor and passion for people – family, friends and the residents of our great city who benefited from Anthony's tireless work ethic.

"He was an extremely popular elected official due to his hard work, sincerity and ability to bring people together during tough times," said Mayor DePiero.

"Even when he was sick and fighting for his life, he continued to work hard for Parma's residents.

"Personally, I have lost a great friend, mentor and confidant. I will miss his great humor and easy going nature the most."

Zielinski, 46, had been serving as Parma Treasurer since being appointed in July of 2005. He was reelected to another four year term in November 2009. He met yearly with leaders of the 50 top businesses to stay posted on pending changes in tax receipts. He proposed furlough agreements that helped to avoid layoffs.

Prior to becoming Treasurer, Zielinski was a Parma City Councilman in Ward 8 for more than

seven years. While a councilman, Zielinski was the Majority Leader and Finance Chairman. graduated from Parma Senior High School and Cleveland State University, where he earned a master's degree business in management. He became a mortgage banker and a salesman for Kaufman Containers.

"My brother was a unique combination of charisma, integrity, intellect and strength all put into a handsome package," said Ken Zielinski. "Anthony told me on numerous occasions throughout his career that he made decisions based on what was the best for the residents and city – not for himself.

> He truly viewed public service as a way to make a contribution and a positive difference for people."

> In 2005, Zielinski helped start Leadership for Tomorrow. More than 6,000 fifth-graders have held mock councils at City Hall and met officials there. He also raised money to renovate Ridgewood Lake Park. Anthony was active with Parma Democrats, the Rotary Club and the Parma Area Chamber of Commerce.

Longtime friend Tom Mastroianni, Parma Clerk of City Council, said he will miss Zielinski's sense of humor and the positive attitude that he brought to everything he did.

"Anthony was like a brother to me," said Mastroianni. "His tireless work ethic gave our residents outstanding service at a time when being Treasurer of a major city like Parma was a daunting task. He will be greatly missed."

Mastroianni organized "Anthony's Army" in July of last year as a show of support for his friend. Money collected from the sale of "Anthony's Army" T-shirts was donated to the American Cancer Society through Relay for Life.

Mayor DePiero was among the supporters who

wore an "Anthony's Army" T-shirt during a group picture at Tri-C West last July prior to the start of Parma's Relay for Life.

"His family, including his son, Anthony, and the love of his life, Traci, meant the world to him," said Mayor DePiero. "Anybody who knew Anthony knows he was a class act."





# Parma's Cleveland Metroparks West Creek Reservation Project Gets Underway

West Creek Reservation in Parma, originally opened in 2006, is receiving a \$12 million face lift with a fall 2012 completion date. A ground-breaking was held Monday, March 7 at the 325-acre reservation.

The project includes: a Watershed Stewardship Center with innovative exhibits, reserved group picnic facility, operation facility, trails - including 1.7 miles of all purpose trail, interpretive overlooks and a new entry drive.

"This 300-plus acre park will be a jewel, not only for our residents but for all Greater Clevelanders," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "We take pride in partnerships like this that make good things happen for

communities like Parma. The park will become a one-of-a-kind destination point for northern Ohioans – a place where they can visit, enjoy and learn."

"Cleveland Metroparks is pleased to preserve and restore this geologically-unique and biologically-diverse reservation," said Brian Zimmerman, Cleveland Metroparks executive director. "This project would not have been possible without



Creek Reservation.

our partners: Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, the City of Parma and West Creek Preservation Committee."

The Watershed Stewardship Center will have a variety of interactive exhibits that will invite visitors to identify their impact on the West Creek watershed. Using West Creek as an example, impacts on urban streams, like impervious surfaces, storm water and pollution, will be interpreted and discussed. Center visitors will be able to share their insights as they participate in a simulated decision-making planning process that illustrates impacts on the West Creek Watershed.

The 1.7-mile trail includes a loop

around an existing meadow and bridges that crisscross the 9-mile West Creek, a centerpiece of the reservation.

Fechko Excavating, Incorporated of Medina will be responsible for all the site improvements including trails, roads, overlooks, and parking lots. Seitz Builders, Inc. of Broadview Heights will construct the Watershed Stewardship Center and Park Operations buildings.

## Parma Receives Million Dollar Federal Safety Force Grant

Parma Mayor Dean DePiero has announced the Parma Fire Department has received a grant in excess of one million dollars from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The money will be used to hire and retain firefighters in the City of Parma.

The formal announcement of the \$1,078,726 grant was made in Washington by U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH).

"This grant will go a long way in keeping our community safe and increase our safety force staffing," said Mayor DePiero. "The money will enable us to hire nine additional firefighters in providing salaries, benefits and general equipment needs."

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response program (SAFER) allowed the City of Parma to swear-in the first five firefighters previously screened and approved for duty. The ceremony took place on Monday, March 21 at 11:00 a.m.

"The grant money will help us keep our commitment to full staffing of our emergency services," said Parma Safety Director Gregory Baeppler. "Funding of this nature will be used to improve the ability of Ohio communities to respond to fires and fire-related hazards."

The ultimate goal of the SAFER grant is to increase staffing, thereby making the Ohio communities, its residents and firefighters as safe as possible.

"The SAFER grant bolsters our level of preparedness," said Parma Fire Chief John French. "In addition, the funds can be used for recruitment of quality individuals who may be interested in a career as a firefighter/paramedic. Without a doubt, this is a good day for Parma."

Chief French credited Parma Firefighters David Higginbotham and John Conroy for writing a successful grant application in what he called an extremely competitive process.

## **Polish Village Taking Shape in Parma**

By Jack P. Marschall

Nine-tenths of a mile doesn't sound like a great distance, but it's a journey into another world, or village, in the City of

Parma. The wheels are in motion by Parma City Council to designate the nearly milelong span along Ridge Road as "Polish Village." The borders are Pearl Road to the north and Thornton Drive to the south. The many business owners between here and there, especially those near the busy intersection of Snow Road, seem ready to wave the red and white Polish flag to celebrate the news.

"I'm really excited because of the pride and support we're showing – not only the businesses, but the residents and the city, too," said David

Kantor, owner of Grandma Helen's Kitchen Restaurant. "We have a strong Polish community here, so I think we can build the same kind of spirit as the city and the residents did in Ukrainian Village on State Road."

Kantor displays his optimism on the chopping block, neatly slicing and dicing meats and potatoes as he prepares ethnic

dishes like chicken paprikash, stuffed cabbage, Salisbury steak, and kielbasa and sauerkraut. "Our business is new and we're doing okay," said Kantor. "A lot of our success is by word of mouth. If people hear good things about us, they'll give us a shot, and that seems to be happening."

"There is a willingness among Ridge Road merchants to make this venture a huge success," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "Let's face it, businesses along Ridge Road are stable, growing and willing to be pro-active in their neighborhood to make our

community unique and exciting. People have the right attitude at the right time – and some of the best food in town."

Angelo Colozza has been hearing a lot about Polish Village and he says the idea is good for local businesses and good for the neighborhood. Colozza and his family have owned the bakery since 1975, relocating to Parma from Storer Avenue in Cleveland in 1980. "Even though we're Italian, we sell a lot of



Dave Kantor prepares chicken paprikash during another busy afternoon at Grandma Helen's Kitchen Restaurant.

paczki, kolaczi, poppyseed rolls and chruschiki (Polish crullers) all of which are enjoyed by our Polish friends," said Colozza. "Anything that brings traffic and people to the neighborhood is good for everybody. There's a lot of space in this area to bring in new businesses. I really think it's the right spot to get a new business off the ground."

The Polish Village

The Polish Village designation approval by Parma City Council is likely to coincide with the Polish Constitution Day Parade on Sunday, May 1, organized by the Polish American Congress.

Participants will assemble in the Parma Circle area and march down Ridge Road beginning at 2 p.m., dispersing along side streets south of Snow Road. Polish Village sits in Ward Two. Parma City Councilwoman Debbie Lime and Community Development Director Erik Tollerup have both been taking the city's leadership role in making Polish Village a reality.

"Mv motto is. 'Good neighbors make great neighborhoods," said Lime. "Polish Village is a win-win proposition for the entire area. Eventually, we will help businesses attract customers and neighbors with sidewalk cafes, quality landscaping and additional parking. My hope is to make Polish Village similar in nature to Coventry in Cleveland Heights and Detroit Road in Lakewood."

"We're doing whatever we can to facilitate low interest loans and other programs that will motivate and enable entrepreneurs to take that giant

leap into a new business," said Tollerup. "I can envision this area as one that is primed for growth as we work to make it more pedestrian-friendly and accessible to residents and visitors from across Greater Cleveland."

For several decades now, the ethnic enclaves of Cleveland



Angelo Colozza holds a tray of paczki to be sold on Fat Tuesday and throughout the year.

which were once the economic engines of its neighborhoods
 were allowed to fracture, erode and dissipate. Each old neighborhood had its own baker, butcher, school, church, grocer, bar, restaurant and ethnic shop. Parma is 20 square miles in size and already has distinct neighborhoods that are their own villages within the city.

The core small business models across the Parma area include State Meats, Breads & Beyond, Colozza's Bakery, Little Polish Diner, Chuppa's Marketplace and several others. Merchants say the "old school businesses" philosophy – offering fresh products at a reasonable price with friendly service – means you've won a customer for life. The so-called mom and pop stores offer what Big Box retailing cannot – locally owned and locally run businesses by people who customers have come to know as a store owner, neighbor and friend. Like Ukrainian Village, Polish Village now has a foundation of church, business and cultural interests that will rebuild and re-establish an important part of Parma's culture and heritage.



General Manager Charlene Darlington takes orders on a busy afternoon at Burger King.

Charlene Darlington is the General Manager of the Ridge Road Burger King restaurant. She started at the Parma fast food outlet 18 years ago and has been with the company ever since. She had most recently been the boss at the Lakewood Burger King on Detroit Road but has lived in the neighborhood where she now works for more than 30 years. She says partnering with other businesses and neighbors puts everybody on the same page.

"I work here and I live right over on the corner of Jamison and Frankfort, so I want Polish Village to thrive and prosper for betterment of our neighborhood," said Darlington. "We did something similar in Lakewood and I know we can do it here in Parma. We need to bring in little specialty shops, coffee shops, arts festivals and an atmosphere that will be attractive to people of all ages, from here and outside Parma."

Darlington repeats the common thread – if she and Burger King do well, everyone does well. While admitting it won't happen overnight, she is anxious to get the process moving sooner than later. Darlington also says mini events by local businesses should be standard fare during throughout the year. For example, she says offering modest discount tickets or coupons would be one small way to generate interest, with added personal connections to the community by utilizing a website and advertising.

Other retail proponents of Polish Village include Tal's, Parma Café, Warsaw Deli and the Little Polish Diner. Owner Jon Holt says the diversity and ethnicity of Ridge Road is the best possible location for Polish Village, claiming the timing couldn't be better.

"The feedback I'm hearing from folks in the neighborhood is genuine excitement for what's to come," said Holt. "The businesses are pulling together, most will be open after the Constitution Day Parade, and that shows solidarity for the neighborhood and for one another. There is no doubt in my mind that this is going to work."

Angelo Colozza jokes that having an Italian bakery in the heart of Polish Village is a bonus. Colozza says he's not going anywhere, that he and his family will stay put where they are best known and have been successful for decades. Others, he claims, have the same opportunity.



Jon Holt serves customers David, Julie and Anna Mika at The Little Polish Diner.

"This is the right neighborhood for ethnic businesses, there's no doubt about it," said Colozza. "You start bringing in more businesses and that means more people. And that's good for the city, our neighbors and visitors who will want to come back again and again."

The amenities will undoubtedly multiply as Ridge Road becomes a point of destination, easily accessible and simple to find. Polish Village may soon become Parma's very own Magnificent Mile, *the* place to go for enjoying the food, flavor and friendship of an old-fashioned neighborhood with a fresh, new look.

(Erik Tollerup contributed to this article)

## What You Need to Know About Your Credit

By Timothy Dobeck, Parma Law Director



Having trouble paying your bills? Getting non-stop notices from creditors? Are your accounts being turned over to debt collectors? Are you worried about losing your home or your car?

You're not alone. Many people in Parma face financial crises at some time in their lives. However, your financial situation doesn't have to go

from bad to worse.

We are often barraged with consumer debt counseling ads, both on television and on the radio, but do these companies really help? Do these companies have specials methods of repairing consumer credit that are unknown to everyone else? The answer is no.

We, at the Parma Law Department, don't want our Parma residents to be taken in by these advertisements. You do not have to hire a company to repair your credit. You, alone, can save yourself money. The only way your credit score will rebound involves the factors of time, conscious efforts and an effective debt repayment plan.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) warns consumers to be careful of debt counseling companies who want you to pay hundreds of dollars for "credit repair" before they provide any assistance, suggest that you create a new credit identity and advise you to dispute all the information in your credit report.

If you should decide to respond to an offer to repair your credit, think twice. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) warns consumers to be careful of debt counseling companies. Don't do business with any company that:

- wants you to pay for credit repair services before any services are provided
- does not tell you your legal rights and what you can do yourself — for free
- recommends that you not contact a credit reporting company directly
- suggests that you try to invent a "new" credit report by applying for an Employer Identification Number to use instead of your Social Security number
- advises you to dispute all information in your credit report or take any action that seems illegal, such as creating a new credit identity. If you follow illegal advice and commit fraud, you may be subject to prosecution.

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR CREDIT! The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) requires each of the nationwide consumer reporting companies — Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion — to provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once a year. You can order your free annual credit report online at www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling 1-877-322-8228, or by completing the Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to: Annual Credit

Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

A credit report includes information on where you live, how you pay your bills, and whether you've been sued, arrested, or filed for bankruptcy. When you order your credit report, you need to provide your name, address, Social Security number, and date of birth. To verify your identity, you may need to provide some information that only you would know, like the amount of your monthly mortgage payment. You have the right to know what's in your report, but you have to ask for the information. The credit reporting company must tell you everything in your report and give you a list of everyone who has requested your report.

Additionally, under federal law, you're entitled to a free report if a company takes adverse action against you, such as denying your application for credit, insurance, or employment, and you ask for your report within 60 days of receiving notice of the action. The notice will give you the name, address, and phone number of the credit reporting company. You're also entitled to one free report a year if you're unemployed and plan to look for a job within 60 days; if you're on welfare; or if your report is inaccurate because of fraud, including identity theft.

When negative information in your report is accurate, only the passage of time can assure its removal. A credit reporting company can report most accurate negative information for seven years and bankruptcy information for 10 years. Information about an unpaid judgment against you can be reported for seven years or until the statute of limitations runs out, whichever is longer.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP YOURSELF?

The first step toward taking control of your financial situation is to do a realistic assessment of how much money you take in and how much money you spend. Start by listing your income from all sources. Then, list your "fixed" expenses—ones that are the same each month like mortgage payments or rent, car payments, and insurance premiums. Next, list the expenses that vary—like entertainment, recreation, and clothing. Writing down expenses is a helpful way to track your spending patterns, identify necessary expenses, and prioritize the rest. Your public library and bookstores have information about budgeting and money management techniques. In addition, computer software programs can be useful tools for developing and maintaining a budget, balancing your checkbook, and creating plans to save money and pay down your debt.

Contact your creditors immediately if you're having trouble making ends meet. Tell them why it's difficult for you, and try to work out a modified payment plan that reduces your payments to a more manageable level. Don't wait until your accounts have been turned over to a debt collector. If you fall

behind on your mortgage, contact your lender immediately to avoid foreclosure. Most lenders are willing to work with you if they believe you're acting in good faith and the situation is temporary. Some lenders may reduce or suspend your payments for a short time.

No one can legally remove accurate and timely negative information from a credit report. The law allows you to ask for an investigation of information in your file that you dispute as inaccurate or incomplete. There is no charge for this. It doesn't cost anything to dispute mistakes or outdated items on your credit report. Under the FCRA, both the consumer reporting company and the information provider (that is, the person, company, or organization that provides information about you to a consumer reporting company) are responsible for correcting inaccurate or incomplete information in your report.

If something is incorrect, tell the consumer reporting company, in writing, what information you think is inaccurate. Include copies (NOT originals) of any documents that support your position. In addition to providing your complete name and address, your letter should identify each item in your report you dispute, state the facts and the reasons you dispute the information, and ask that it be removed or corrected. You may want to enclose a copy of your report, and circle the items in question. Send your letter by certified mail, "return

receipt requested," so you can document that the consumer reporting company received it. Keep copies of your dispute letter and enclosures.

Consumer reporting companies must investigate the items you question within 30 days — unless they consider your dispute frivolous. When the investigation is complete, the consumer reporting company must give you the results in writing, too, and a free copy of your report if the dispute results in a change. If an item is changed or deleted, the consumer reporting company is not permitted to put the disputed information back in your file unless the information provider verifies that it is accurate and complete.

#### HAVE YOU BEEN VICTIMIZED?

Many states have laws regulating credit repair companies. The Parma Police Department's law enforcement officials may be helpful if you've lost money to credit repair scams. Don't be embarrassed to report a problem with a credit repair company. While you may fear that contacting the federal government or the Parma Police Department could make your problems worse, remember that laws are in place to protect you. Regardless of your credit history, Parma Police officials, financial advisors and consumer advocates recommend reviewing your credit report periodically.

For more information on this issue, visit www.ftc.gov/credit.

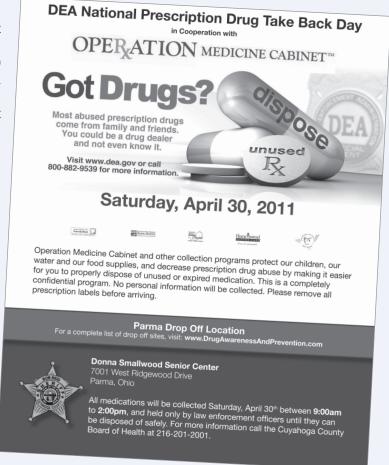
## **SAVE THE DATE!**

The Drug Enforcement Administration, in partnership with state and local law enforcement agencies and other local organizations, has organized a joint event: **Operation Medicine Cabinet (OMC)** and the DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The event will occur on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at locations throughout northeast Ohio.

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health, with the support of the City of Parma and the Parma C.E.R.T. team, will be participating in the day's event, with the drop-off location at the Donna Smallwood Senior Center.

Together, the partners' goal is to help residents of northeast Ohio safely dispose of any outdated or unwanted prescription medications. This completely confidential program will allow adult family members to visit any listed location, where law enforcement officers will collect and hold all medications. After the medications are collected, they will be weighed by the Drug Enforcement Administration before they are destroyed through incineration. This is a completely confidential program. No personal information will be collected.

For more information, please call the Cuyahoga County Board of Health at 216-201-2001.



## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

### REQUIRED RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

The following types of RESIDENTIAL permits are currently issued by the Building Department and must be obtained prior to any work being performed.

BUILDING PERMITS (which include the

following):

Accessory Buildings/Sheds, Gazebos/Pergolas

Additions

Decks

Concrete Leveling

Drive/ Aprons/ Patios/ Sidewalks/Steps/Stoop

Electrical

Fences/Retaining Walls/ Dog Runs

Garages/Carports (new, alterations, additions)

Grade Change/Stabilization

Heating/Air Conditioning

Interior Alterations

Landscaping/New Lawns

New Residential Dwellings

Plumbing

Roofs/Re-roofs

Sewers (storm and sanitary-which may also require a permit from the county)

Siding

Solar Panels

**Swimming Pools** 

Tree Removal

Waterproofing/Damp proofing

Wind turbines

Windows and doors

Wrecks (garages, houses, sheds, etc.)

- NOTE: ALL CONTRACTORS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE BUILDING DEPT. AND OBTAIN THE REQUIRED PERMITS BEFORE PERFORMING ANY WORK.
- \*\*\* DISCLAIMER: Not all permits are listed, so if you have any questions please call the Building Department at 440-885-8030.

### REQUIRED COMMERCIAL PERMITS

The following types of Commercial permits and licenses are currently issued by the Building Department and must be obtained prior to any work being performed.

 CONTRACTOR REGISTRATIONS (all contractors must register with the Building Department and obtain all necessary permits prior to performing any work)

**BUILDING PERMITS** (which include the following):

Additions (Commercial)

Demolition/wrecks

Drives/Aprons/Public Sidewalks

Electric/Low Voltage

Fences/Dumpster Enclosures/Retaining Walls

HVAC

Interior Alterations (Commercial)

New Commercial Parking Lots (Including resurfacing, sealing, restriping)

Signs (Including Inflatables)

Sprinklers/Fire Suppression/ Fire Alarm/Kitchen Hoods

#### BUSINESS LICENSES

Amusement Devices (Pinball, Video Machines, Newspaper, etc.)

Barber/Beauty Shops

**Billiard Tables** 

**Bowling Lanes** 

Christmas Tree Lots

Construction Trailer

Dance Hall/Dance Orchestra

Food Sales

Juke Box

Motion Picture Operator

**Public Shows** 

Taxi Cabs/Fleets

Temporary bins/dumpsters/storage containers

Temporary Stores

Vending Units

Washer/Dryers (Multi-Family)







SATURDAY **APRIL 30TH** 11 AM-2 PM

PARMA JUSTICE CENTER 5555 POWERS BLVD., PARMA

Live Fire Demonstration, Tours of the Police Department, Holding Facilities and Firing Range, Child Safety Seat Demonstrations, Impaired Driving Van, Seat Belt Simulator and Free Shredding

- Swat Unit / Bomb Unit Life Flight CERT
  - Mounted Unit Motorcycle Officer
  - Child Fingerprinting
     Fire Engines
- Internet Safety Ambulance K9 Officers

Food – Games – Door Prizes – Celebrity Guest – Much More

FREE BICYCLE HELMETS FOR PARMA RESIDENTS

## **Parks and Recreation News**

By Mickey Vittardi, Parma Parks and Recreation Director

- The Parma Recreation Department provides a program/guide booklet that offers information on the various recreational programs and facilities available throughout the year. This program guide also showcases all the parks and their locations, a list of recreation and community organizations and the members of the City Council. These booklets are available at the Recreation Department located inside Parmatown Mall or by calling them at 440-885-8144. You may also pick-up a booklet at Parma City Hall.
- The Disc Golf Course at Veterans Memorial Park will expand with an additional 9 holes. Disc golf is similar to regular golf in that players take turns taking shots from a tee towards a pin, attempting a minimum of shots. It is played through existing terrain and the course if free to use at any time during park hours and can be enjoyed by all ages.
- Ridgewood Municipal Golf Course operates March through November, weather permitting and consists of approximately 120 acres of rolling watered fairways with continuous cart paths. The new incentive based tiered golf outing pricing is as follows:

72 or less golfers, including cart. . . . . \$38.00 per person 73-107 golfers, including cart . . . . . \$35.00 per person 109-140 golfers, including cart . . . . . \$32.00 per person 141 or more golfers, including cart . . . . \$29.00 per person

- We just completed our Parma Pride Basketball Program which offered three weeks of instruction and a final fourth week of various fun activities for the participants. This adaptive sports program is offered to individuals with physical and mental limitations that inhibit them from participating in traditional recreational programs. Our next program will be focusing on T-Ball and will take place in June. For further information, please contact the Recreation Department.
- The Recreation Department has just completed the registration for the youth baseball/softball programs.

Some of the upcoming events offered to the residents are pool pass sales and tennis registration:

All outdoor pools open Saturday, June 11th and close Saturday, August 20th

#### **POOL PASS SALES**

Saturday, May 21st 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Passes & Swimming Lessons

Wednesday, June 8th: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Pool Passes Only

Saturday, June 11th: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Pool Passes Only

Beginning June 13th – July 8th Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Excluding Monday, July 4th 2011

Pool Pass Sales take place at the Parma Recreation Department located inside Parmatown Mall and if there are any questions, please contact them directly at 440-885-8144

The Youth and Adult Tennis Lessons introduce the basic fundamentals of the game of tennis. There is three levels to choose from, beginner, intermediate and advanced.

#### TENNIS REGISTRATION

FIRST SESSION (Begins the week of June 13th) June 4th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. June 7th from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

SECOND SESSION (Begins the week of July 11th) July 5th & 7th from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Tennis registration takes place at the Parma Recreation Department located inside Parmatown Mall and if there are any questions, please contact them directly at 440-885-8144

### PARMA COMMUNITY NIGHT AT PROGRESSIVE FIELD

CLEVELAND INDIANS vs. Los Angeles Angels MONDAY, JULY 25th @ 7:05 P.M.

Bleacher Seats are \$10.00 each
Pre Game Little League Parade
Tickets can be purchased at the
Recreation Department





## **Spring Property Maintenance Reminders**

- All grass must be maintained and at no time exceed 6 inches in height in all yard areas. Property lines and fence lines need to be trimmed. Grass and weeds growing through driveway or sidewalks must be removed.
- Trash/garbage cans must have proper fitting covers and be stored out of the public view.
- Trash/garbage is not to be placed out for pick-up prior to 6:00 p.m. on the day before its scheduled collection.
- Any motor vehicle parked on private property must be parked on a hard surface driveway or turnabout or other hard surface parking area. (Parking on the lawn is prohibited.)
- No person shall store or keep an unregistered and/or inoperable vehicle on any private property unless such vehicle is housed in a garage or other suitable structure in a lawful manner, consistent with all regulations where it is not visible from the street or other public or private property.

## Parma City Council Honors TV's Legendary Dick Goddard

Parma Mayor Dean DePiero and members of Parma City Council honored local broadcasting legend Dick Goddard March 7 during its regular Monday night Council meeting. They presented Cleveland's longtime meteorologist with a Proclamation and a key to the city.



"Dick has been a good friend to the City of Parma and the Parma Animal Shelter," said Mayor Dean DePiero.

"We want to help celebrate the generosity Dick has shown all of Greater Cleveland for the past five decades."

Dick Goddard has been a fixture on Cleveland television on Fox 8 and WKYC, channel 3. He will mark 50 years on local television May 1. Goddard just celebrated his 80th birthday February 24th.

"I was always happy to do something to support the Parma Animal Shelter because of the good work they do," said Goddard. "Anything that helps to get those dogs and cats adopted is good enough for me."

For the past several years, Goddard has promoted pet adoption on the air while reminding pet owners to get their cats and dogs spayed or neutered. The popular Cleveland broadcaster attracts thousands of people to Vermilion every year for his Woollybear Festival. It is considered to be the largest single-day festival held in the state of Ohio.

"The greatest compliment I can give Dick Goddard is the same one he's been hearing for years, what you see is what you get," said Mayor DePiero. "We are so happy Dick is giving his time to allow us to honor him at Parma City Hall. But that is exactly what he is known for – giving his time and energy to help promote pets, charities and good quality programs across Greater Cleveland. He's a class act."

- Firewood stored in an outside area shall not exceed a length of 30 inches per log and shall be stored off the ground and encased at the bottom. Firewood must be stored to the rear of the front building line. No pile of firewood shall exceed four feet in height, four feet in depth and eight feet in length. All stored firewood must be kept a distance of two feet from any property line.
- Any contractors, including Landscaping / Lawn service contractors who perform work in the city of Parma need to be registered with the building department.
- Prior to entering into contracts with contractors it is best to contact the Better Business Bureau about complaints against the contractor.
- It is also important to contact the building department to see if the contractor is registered with the city and that a permit has been obtained prior to staring the job.

## Meet Your New City Council President

Dear Resident:

I was honored and humbled back in January to be appointed as your new President of Parma City Council. As you may know, previous to my appointment, I served as Councilman for the residents of Ward Two for over seven years. During that time I worked very hard to prove to my constituents that I was involved in city government for the right reasons. I want nothing more than to ensure you that your local government works for you and serves your needs. This will be one of my top priorities during my tenure. Please know that I will continue to serve our entire city with the same level of integrity, honesty and diligence as I did as a ward councilman.

As President of City Council, I have many roles, including ensuring that Council meetings are held in an efficient and open manner in accordance with city and state law and the rules of Parliamentary procedure. To this end, I would like to invite you to attend at least one City Council meeting this year. In doing so, you will become more acquainted with your elected officials and the fine work that they do on your behalf. Simply call 440-885-8091 or visit the City of Parma website at <a href="https://www.cityofparma-oh.gov">www.cityofparma-oh.gov</a> to find meeting dates and times. Meetings are always open to the public and are held in Parma City Council Chambers at City Hall, 6611 Ridge Road. We look forward to seeing you.

I am also calling on the residents of Parma to join me in making a bigger commitment to recycling in 2011. In fact, I plan to make recycling awareness one of my many objectives as your President of City Council. I will not rest until Parma leads the county in recycling metal, plastic, glass, paper, cardboard and other recyclable materials. Our actions as the seventh largest city in Ohio will have a major impact on our environment and can save taxpayer dollars. To find out more about recycling in Parma visit <a href="http://www.cityofparma-oh.gov/cityhall/service.aspx">http://www.cityofparma-oh.gov/cityhall/service.aspx</a> or call 216- 661-7372. Best wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Sean P. Brennan Parma City Council President

### Parma City Council Is Only A Phone Call Away

City Council Office: 440-885-8094 — Tom Mastroianni, Clerk of Council



### **President of Council**

- Ward 2 Representative since 1/1/2004
- Chairman of Governmental Operations Committee
- · Vice Chair of Finance Committee
- Member of Public Service, Environmental Standards And Public Housing Committees

Councilman Sean P. Brennan 440-884-0489 Email: councilmanbrennan@sbcglobal.net



### Ward 1

- Ward 1 Representative since 1/1/2002
- · Chairwoman of Public Safety Committee
- · Chairwoman of Public Housing
- Member of Finance, Planning and Governmental Operations Committees

Councilwoman Mary Galinas 440-842-1532

Email: mgalinas.parma@sbcglobal.net



### Ward 2

- Finance
- Public Service
- · Governmental Operations
- Environmental Operations
- Public Housing

Councilwoman Deborah Lime 440-845-1714

Email: Limeward 2@gmail.com



### Ward 3

Ward 4

· Majority Leader

Committees

- Ward 3 Representative since 1/1/2006
- Chairman of Planning Committee
- Vice Chairman of Appointment Scanning Committee

• Ward 4 Representative since 12/15/2003

• Vice Chair of Public Housing Committee

• Vice Chair of Environmental Standards Committee

• Member of Finance, Public Safety, Public Service

 Member of Finance, Governmental Operations, and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Nicholas Celebrezze 440-842-4530

Email: ward3@celebrezze.org



Councilman Brian Day 216-351-2909

Email: councilmanday@cox.net



Ward 5

- Ward 5 Representative since 1/1/2006
- Chairman of Public Service Committee
- Member of Finance, Planning, Environmental Standards, Appointment Scanning and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Thomas Regas 440-843-3759 Email:TRegas@cox.net



### Ward 6

- Ward 6 Representative since 1/1/2004
- Chairman of Environmental Operations Committee
- Vice Chairman of Governmental Operations
- Member of Finance, Public Safety, Appointment Scanning and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Larry Napoli 440-845-4547 Email: deblarvn@aol.com



### Ward 7

- Ward 7 Representative since 1/7/2006
- Chairman of Appointment Scanning Committee
- Vice Chairman of Public Service Committee
- Member of Finance, Public Safety, and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Kenneth A. Ramser 440-843-5737 Email: parmaward7@sbcglobal.net



### Ward 8

- Ward 8 Representative since 7/18/2005
- Chairman of Finance Committee
- Vice Chairman of Planning Committee
- Member of Environmental Standards, Appointment Scanning and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Scott M.Tuma 440-842-8068 Email: councilmantuma@cox.net



### Ward 9

- Ward 9 Representative since 1/1/1994
- President Pro Tem
- Vice Chairman of Public Safety
- · Member of Finance, Public Service, Planning,
- Governmental Operations and Public Housing Committees

Councilman Roy J. Jech 216-351-6859 or 216-272-6418 (cell) mail: jakester46@aol.com

**PAGE 12** 

### Fair Housing Is The Law

The City of Parma's Fair Housing Ordinance prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or handicap.

If you feel your fair housing rights have been violated, you have the right to file a fair housing complaint with the City's Fair Housing Administrator, in writing, within one (1) year of the alleged violation. Once your complaint is filed, it will be promptly investigated to determine if there are reasonable grounds to believe a violation of the Fair Housing Ordinance has occurred.

If the complaint is not ultimately resolved through conciliation, and if there is reasonable grounds to believe a violation has taken place, the complaint will be referred to the City's Fair Housing Review Board for an adjudicative hearing.

If you need further information regarding Parma's Fair Housing Ordinance or would like to file a Fair Housing Complaint, please contact the Fair Housing Administrator in the Parma Law Department at 440-885-8132.

### Neighborly Tip . . .

When walking your dog down the street, be considerate of your neighbors and neighborhood. Take a plastic bag or a "pooper scooper" to remove your animal's waste from tree lawns, public walks, streets, recreation areas or private property.

Parma's Codified Ordinance 618.18 passed November 20, 2006 City of Parma 6611 Ridge Road Parma, Ohio 44129



PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID** 

Cleveland, Ohio Permit No. 983

**Dated Materials** Must be delivered by April 15, 2011

### **ECRWSS - Carrier Route Presort** POSTAL CUSTOMER

The City of Parma does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, disability, socioeconomic level, religion or national origin in its dealings with employees, students, the general public, application for employment, educational programs, activities, or access to its facilities.

### **IMPORTANT CONTACT** INFORMATION

Parma City Hall (General)	(440) 885-8000
Parma City Hall Website	www.cityofparma-oh.gov
Auditor's Office	(440) 885-8022
Building Department	(440) 885-8032
Civil Service	(440) 885-8061
Communications Department	(440) 885-8181
Community Services & Economic Development	(216) 661-7372
Engineering Department	(440) 885-8110
Human Resources	(440) 885-8167
Law Department	(440) 885-8132
Mayor's Office	(440) 885-8001
Municipal Court	(440) 887-7400
Parks & Recreation Department	(440) 885-8144
Parma Police Department	(440) 887-7300
Parma Police (non emergency)	(440) 885-1234
Public Housing	(216) 661-2015
Resident Services	(440) 885-8083
Safety Department	(440) 885-8174
Service Department	(440) 885-8184
Donna Smallwood Activities Center	
(formerly Parma Senior Center)	(440) 885-8800
Tax Department	(440) 885-8045
Treasurer's Office	(440) 885-8812